Subject No. 440.

Lands with few date trees to be given out for cultivation.

Summary of disdussion.—Lands containing even a few date trees are refused for cultivation. This should not be.

Dewan's reply.—Only lands containing valuable date groves will be thus reserved.

T. NARSIPUR TALUK.

Subject No. 441.

Clearance of weeds in channels.

Summary of discussion.—No orders have as yet been passed regarding the clearance of weeds in channels. Raiyats of villages within whose limits a channel passes can easily remove weeds from such portions of the channel as lie within their village. But raiyats holding lands from 20 to 30 miles lower down are required to clear weeds near the head-sluice. It is impossible for them to do this without very great inconvenience to themselves and prejudice to their field work. Orders should be given for getting the weeds cleared by Public Works Department agency together with the silt or only by the raiyats who hold lands in the neighbourhood of the sections of channel to be weeded.

Dewan's reply.—The best plan would be to divide the channel proportionately to areas irrigated by the different sections and mark out these divisions by stones fixed on the bund and enforce the liability of the cultivators of these different areas to clear the weeds within the length of channel allotted.

Subject No. 442.

Overflow of Irrigation channels damaging cultivation.

Summary of discussion.—At present overflows of Irrigation channels and surface drainage are allowed to run over cultivated land to the great injury of land and crops. The Public Works Department should be required to make proper arrangements for carrying away the water in convenient channels to the river or to the nearest ravine.

Dewan's reply.—Represent individual instances by petition and the Public Works Department will do the needful.

Subject No. 443.

A Sanskrit and an English School at Sosale.

Summary of discussion.—A Sanskrit *Pathasala* and an English School should be opened at Sosalé.

Dewan's reply.—Apply to the Education Secretary under the Rules.

Subject No. 444.

Repairs to the bathing ghat at Tirumakudlu Narsipur.

Summary of discussion.—There is a bathing ghat in front of Narasimhaswami temple at Tirumakudlu-Narsipur which is largely used by the people. The steps being very old, are deranged and besides causing inconvenience may prove dangerous during floods. The steps should be repaired.

Dewan's reply.—Matter for Local Fund and Municipal Boards.

HUNSUR TALUK.

Subject No. 445.

Mohatarfa House Tax.

Summary of discussion.—A better system of valuing house property for purposes of House-tax should be introduced. The commercial value of the property should be

taken into consideration and if there should be a recent registered deed of sale and if no extension or material improvements adding considerably to the value of the property have been made subsequent to the date of the sale deed, the value put on the property with the view of fixing the tax should certainly not exceed the purchase money mentioned in the deed of sale. In places where there are Municipalities, the non-official members should form a committee for valuing house property. When the valuation roll is completed, it should be sent to the Vice-President of the Municipality and arrangements made for house owners to inspect the roll, and one month should be allowed them to lodge appeals with the Vice-President. After one month is up, the Vice-President should hold a full meeting of the Municipal Members to dispose of the appeals and confirm the valuation roll. A final appeal could be made to the Jamabandi Officer. In the absence of such a system, the valuation is often very arbitrary. It recently happened that in a certain case in which the conveyance showed a consideration of Rs. 1,500 paid in 1888, the estimate was first taken at Rs. 14,000, then on representation it was reduced to Rs. 6,000 and afterwards to Rs. 5,000. In some cases notices have been issued in which the increase is not merely 20 or 25 per cent but is even double the previous rate.

Dewan's reply.—The proposed new Regulation will place this on a better footing by taking the tax on the rental. Where the increase, though legitimate, is great, it should be adopted by gradations and spread over a series of years.

Subject No. 446.

Vacancies in the Municipal membership to be speedily filled up.

Summary of discussion.—Arrangements should be made to fill up vacancies of Municipal Members caused by death or resignation as soon as possible after the vacancies occur. Hunsur is entitled to five non-official members; there are at present only two. Muhammad Sultan Saib died over three years ago and M. R. Ry. Muddu Viranna Chetti died more than a year ago. No arrangements have been made to replace these members. Amir Hyder Beg Saib has now resigned leaving only two non-official members. There should be a fixed time, say three months, within which a new member should be appointed after the death or resignation of a member. Municipal work is also not properly done. For instance Rs. 150 a mile are received from the Public Works Department for maintenance of the portion of the Provincial Road which lies within Municipal limits; but not one basketful of gravel is thrown on the road.

Dewan's reply.—The Deputy Commissioner will look into these two matters and take needful action.

Subject No. 447.

A Munsiff's Court at Hunsurs.

Summary of discussion.—The Munsiff's Court should be re-established at Hunsur. See also No. 464 of last year's Proceedings.